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# WALDHEIM FIGURES IN 1948 ARMY LIST

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WASHINGTON, March 24 — Kurt Waldheim, the former Secretary General of the United Nations, was identified as a suspected war criminal on lists kept by the United Nations and the United States Army, according to a document in the National Archives.

A 1948 Army document said Mr. Waldheim was wanted by Yugoslavia on murder charges. It does not indicate what evidence, if any, was provided.

Allan Ryan, former director of the Office of Special Investigations at the Department of Justice, a unit that hunts war criminals, said today that the names on the list were often based on unverified accusations.

Mr. Waldheim, who is a candidate for President of Austria, has denied any involvement in war crimes.

In a recent interview, he said he had served with German forces in Yugoslavia as a German-Italian interpreter and had not been involved in assaults on partisans. Mr. Waldheim ignored his army service in Yugoslavia in his published memoirs.

## Served With Army Group E

The reference to Mr. Waldheim appears in a document titled "Combined Registry of War Criminals and Security Suspects," a list compiled by the United States Army on the basis of information from the wartime Allies.

According to the list, Mr. Waldheim served as a staff intelligence officer from April 1944 to May 1945 with Army Group E, the force that occupied Yugoslavia and waged a campaign against its partisan forces.

The commander of Army Group E, General Alexander Löhr, was extradited to Yugoslavia and executed in 1947 after being convicted of war crimes.

The Army registry also contains a cross-reference to Mr. Waldheim's file number in a list of suspected war criminals maintained by the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

The United States Army document was uncovered by a researcher for the World Jewish Congress in National Archives files that are open to the public. The United Nations files are secret.

The Army list was updated several times and was distributed initially to the Allied nations, including the Soviet Union. Mr. Waldheim's name appears only in the June 1948 edition of the list.

## U.S. Efforts to See U.N. Files

In 1980, while Mr. Waldheim was Secretary General, the Justice Department office asked for access to the United Nations files.

Mr. Ryan, then the director of the Justice Department unit, said he had hoped to find evidence that could be used against Nazi war criminals who had settled in the United States. Mr. Ryan said the United Nations refused to provide blanket access. He said the investigators were allowed to look at less sensitive documents, with the understanding that the material on the charges could be requested later.

This account was disputed by Robert Rosenstock, legal counsel at the United States mission to the United Nations. He said American officials had been able to "see what we wanted to."

But Neal M. Sher, the present director of the Justice Department's investigating unit, said he had asked as recently as 1984 for permission to search through the United Nations files and the request was not granted.

The World Jewish Congress, which found the United States Army registry's reference to Mr. Waldheim, plans to hold a news conference Tuesday to disclose further documents. The organization has been looking into Mr. Waldheim's past for several months.

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